

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

05 APR 22 11:00

EDMUND WOODBURY, individually and on)
behalf of all others similarly situated,)

Plaintiffs,)

vs.)

TEMPLETON GLOBAL SMALLER)
COMPANIES FUND, INC. and)
TEMPLETON INVESTMENT COUNSEL,)
LLC,)

Defendants.)

Case No.: 05-CV-301-MUR

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Defendants Templeton Global Smaller Companies Fund, Inc. and Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC hereby provide notice of removal of this action to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §§ 78bb(f)(2) and 77p(c), and 28 U.S.C. § 1446. The United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit held, on April 5, 2005, in Kircher v. Putnam Funds Trust, 2005 WL 757255 (copy annexed hereto as Exhibit A), that actions identical to this action are covered class actions involving a covered security within the meaning of the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act ("SLUSA"), that they may not be maintained in any State Court, and that they are removable to the Federal District Court for the district in which the action is pending (here, the Southern District of Illinois). SLUSA, 15 U.S.C. § 78bb(f)(2), provides as follows:

(2) Removal of covered class actions

Any covered class action brought in any State court involving a covered security, as set forth in paragraph (1), shall be removable to the Federal district court for the district in which the action is pending, and shall be subject to paragraph (1).

In further support of this Notice of Removal, Defendants aver as follows:

1. On October 3, 2003, the Complaint in this action was filed in the Circuit Court of Madison County in the State of Illinois.
2. On October 17, 2003, the Summons and Complaint in this action were served on Templeton Global Smaller Companies Fund, Inc. and Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC in San Mateo, California (copy of Summons and Complaint annexed hereto as Exhibit B).
3. On November 14, 2003, Defendants removed this action to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois and it was assigned Civil Case Number 03-761-GPM.
4. On January 29, 2004, Chief Judge Murphy remanded this action to the Circuit Court of Madison County.
5. Since remand, no activity has taken place in the Circuit Court of Madison County other than the following:
 - a. Defendant Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC moved for dismissal of the Complaint for lack of personal jurisdiction — no answering papers have yet been filed by Plaintiff (copy annexed hereto as Exhibit C);
 - b. Templeton Global Smaller Companies Fund, Inc. answered and moved for the dismissal of the Complaint pursuant to the doctrine of interstate forum non conveniens — no answering papers have yet been filed by Plaintiff (copies annexed hereto as Exhibit D);
 - c. Limited discovery on the personal jurisdiction and forum non conveniens motions has occurred, but there has been no discovery whatsoever on the merits of the Complaint.

6. On April 5, 2005, as noted above, the Seventh Circuit ruled that state law class action claims identical to those alleged in the Complaint are foreclosed and blocked by SLUSA. The Court of Appeals **ordered** the United States District Court to undo the prior remand orders and dismiss plaintiffs' state law claims. See Kircher, supra.

7. On the basis of the April 5, 2005 Order of the Seventh Circuit, it is now clear that this action "is or has become removable" (see 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b) and 15 U.S.C. § 78bb(f)(2) and § 77p(c)).

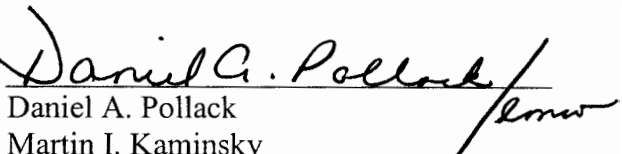
8. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), a copy of this Notice of Removal is being served on the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Madison County in the State of Illinois and on Plaintiffs Counsel.

Wherefore, Defendants Templeton Global Smaller Companies Fund, Inc. and Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC hereby remove this action to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois.

Dated: April 22, 2005

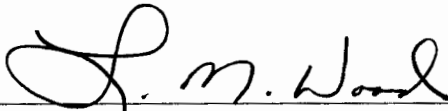
Respectfully submitted,

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LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

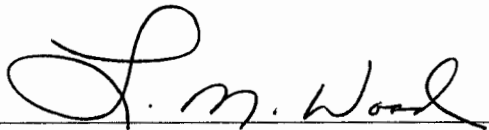
The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served by first-class mail, postage prepaid, upon the attorneys listed below, on this 22nd day of April, 2005:

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. M. Wood", is written over a horizontal line.

Westlaw.

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H**Briefs and Other Related Documents**

United States Court of Appeals,
Seventh Circuit.
Carl KIRCHER and Robert Brockway, individually
and on behalf of a class, et
al., Plaintiffs-Appellees,
v.
PUTNAM FUNDS TRUST and PUTNAM
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, LLC, et al.,
Defendants-
Appellants.
Nos. 04-1495, 04-1496, 04-1608, 04-1628,
04-1650, 04-1651, 04-1660, 04-1661,
04-2687.

Argued Jan. 7, 2005.
Decided April 5, 2005.

Background: Mutual fund investors brought state-court putative class actions against funds, asserting under state law that funds' misconduct in setting prices had left funds vulnerable to exploitation by arbitrageurs. Funds removed actions under Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act (SLUSA). The United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois, G. Patrick Murphy, Chief Judge, David R. Herndon, J., and Michael J. Reagan, J., remanded actions. The Court of Appeals, 373 F.3d 847, ruled that remand orders were appealable.

Holdings: Subsequently, the Court of Appeals, Easterbrook, Circuit Judge, held that:

- (1) SLUSA preempted actions that defined their classes according to holding of shares between specified dates, and
- (2) SLUSA also preempted action that defined its class as investors who held shares between two specified dates but did not purchase or sell shares

during that period.

Reversed and remanded with instructions.

[1] Securities Regulation 278

349Bk278 Most Cited Cases

Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act's (SLUSA) language precluding state-court securities fraud class actions, i.e. Act's "untrue statement or omission" and "manipulative or deceptive device" clauses, have same scope as their antecedents in § 10(b) and Rule 10b-5. Securities Act of 1933, § 16(b), as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. § 77p(b); Securities Exchange Act of 1934, § 10(b), as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. § 78j(b); 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

[1] States 18.77

360k18.77 Most Cited Cases

Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act's (SLUSA) language precluding state-court securities fraud class actions, i.e. Act's "untrue statement or omission" and "manipulative or deceptive device" clauses, have same scope as their antecedents in § 10(b) and Rule 10b-5. Securities Act of 1933, § 16(b), as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. § 77p(b); Securities Exchange Act of 1934, § 10(b), as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. § 78j(b); 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

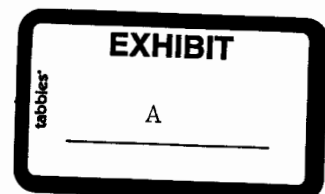
[2] Securities Regulation 278

349Bk278 Most Cited Cases

Purpose of Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act (SLUSA) is to prevent plaintiffs from migrating to state court in order to evade rules for federal securities litigation contained in Private Securities Litigation Reform Act (PSLRA). Securities Act of 1933, as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. § 77p; Securities Exchange Act of 1934, § 28, as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. § 78bb.

[2] States 18.77

360k18.77 Most Cited Cases



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[3] Securities Regulation 278

349Bk278 Most Cited Cases

Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act (SLUSA) preempted mutual funds investors' state-court direct class actions against funds asserting state-law claims that funds' misconduct in setting prices had left funds vulnerable to exploitation by arbitrageurs; classes were defined as investors who held shares of given fund between two specified dates, and any class of "all holders" during even single day contained many purchasers and sellers, placing actions within SLUSA's "in connection with the purchase or sale" language. Securities Act of 1933, § 16(b), as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. § 77p(b); Securities Exchange Act of 1934, § 28, as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. § 78bb.

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[4] Securities Regulation 278

349Bk278 Most Cited Cases

Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act (SLUSA) preempted mutual fund investors' state-court direct class action against fund asserting

state-law claim that fund's misconduct in setting prices had left fund vulnerable to exploitation by arbitrageurs, even though class was defined as investors who held shares between two specified dates but did not purchase or sell shares during that period; i.e., fact that action could not have proceeded as private action for damages under Rule 10b-5, but rather had to be brought either as derivative action or by public prosecutor, did not render SLUSA inapplicable. Securities Act of 1933, § 16(b), as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. § 77p(b); Securities Exchange Act of 1934, § 10(b), 28, as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. §§ 78j(b), 78bb; 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

[4] States 18.77

360k18.77 Most Cited Cases

Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act (SLUSA) preempted mutual fund investors' state-court direct class action against fund asserting state-law claim that fund's misconduct in setting prices had left fund vulnerable to exploitation by arbitrageurs, even though class was defined as investors who held shares between two specified dates but did not purchase or sell shares during that period; i.e., fact that action could not have proceeded as private action for damages under Rule 10b-5, but rather had to be brought either as derivative action or by public prosecutor, did not render SLUSA inapplicable. Securities Act of 1933, § 16(b), as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. § 77p(b); Securities Exchange Act of 1934, § 10(b), 28, as amended, 15 U.S.C.A. §§ 78j(b), 78bb; 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

George A. Zelcs, Eugene Y. Barash, Robert L. King, Korein Tillery, Chicago, IL, John J. Stoia, Jr., Milberg, Weiss, Bershad, Hynes & Lerach, San Diego, CA, Francis J. Balint, Jr., Bonnett, Fairbourn, Friedman & Balint, Phoenix, AZ, for Plaintiffs-Appellees.

Rebecca R. Jackson, Bryan Cave, Jon A. Santangelo, Stinson, Morrison & Hecker, St. Louis, MO, Matthew R. Kipp, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, Chicago, IL, Gordon R. Broom, Regina L. Wells, Burroughs, Hepler, Broom, MacDonald & Hebrank, Edwardsville, IL, Steven B. Feirson, Dechert, Price & Rhoads, Philadelphia,

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PA, Mark A. Perry (argued), Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, Washington, DC, for Defendants-Appellants.

Before EASTERBROOK, RIPPLE, and WOOD, Circuit Judges.

EASTERBROOK, Circuit Judge.

*1 Complaints filed in the circuit court of Madison County, Illinois, charge several mutual funds with setting prices in a way that arbitrageurs can exploit. The funds removed the suits to federal court and asked the district judges to dismiss them under the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1998 (SLUSA). Instead the federal judges remanded each suit. Last year we held that these remands are appealable. See *Kircher v. Putnam Funds Trust*, 373 F.3d 847 (7th Cir.2004). Now we must decide whether SLUSA blocks litigation in state court. (Plaintiffs have asked us to overrule our decision about appellate jurisdiction, but their arguments are unpersuasive.)

Mutual funds must set prices at which they sell and redeem their own shares once a day, and must do so at the net asset value of the funds' holdings. (All of the defendants, which operate in interstate and international commerce, are regulated under the Investment Company Act of 1940; we call them "mutual funds" for convenience.) Each defendant sets that price at 4 p.m. Eastern time, shortly after the New York Stock Exchange closes. Orders placed before the close of business that day are executed at this price.

When the funds hold assets that trade in competitive markets, they must value the assets at their market price. 15 U.S.C. § 80a-2(a)(41)(B)(ii), 17 C.F.R. § 270.2a-4(a). Defendants implement this requirement by valuing securities at the closing price of the principal exchange or market in which the securities are traded. For domestic securities this yields a current price; for securities of foreign issuers, however, it may produce a price that is as much as 15 hours old. (European markets close 5 or 6 hours ahead of New York; Asian markets close 12 to 15 hours before New York.)

Many securities trade on multiple markets or over the counter. Stock of a Japanese firm that closes in Tokyo at ¥10,000 might trade in Frankfurt at i 75.22 (equivalent to ¥10,500) between the close in Tokyo and the close in New York--but the mutual fund nonetheless would value each share at ¥ 10,000, because that was its most recent price in the issuer's home market. If foreign stocks move predominantly up during this interval (or if one foreign security moves substantially higher), the mutual fund as a whole would carry a 4 p.m. price below what would be justified by the latest available information, and an arbitrageur could purchase shares before 4 p.m. with a plan to sell the next day at a profit. Likewise arbitrageurs could gain if the foreign stock falls after the close in its home market, and the arbitrageur knows that the U.S. mutual fund will be overpriced at 4 p.m. relative to the price it is likely to have the next trading day when new information from abroad finally is reflected in the fund's valuation. See Richard L. Levine, Yvonne Cristovici & Richard A. Jacobsen, *Mutual Fund Market Timing*, Federal Lawyer 28 (Jan.2005).

A short-swing-trading strategy would not be attractive unless the foreign securities' prices had moved enough to cover the transactions costs of matched purchases and sales of the mutual fund shares, but for no-load funds that have substantial investments in foreign markets this condition sometimes is satisfied. Arbitrageurs then make profits with slight risk to themselves, diverting gains from the mutual funds' long-term investors while imposing higher administrative costs on the funds (whose operating expenses rise with each purchase and redemption). Plaintiffs contend that the mutual funds acted recklessly in failing to block arbitrageurs from reaping these profits. Available means might include levying fees on short-swing transactions, adopting to a front-end-load charge, reducing the number of trades any investor can execute (or deferring each trade by one day), and valuing the securities of foreign issuers at the most current price in *any* competitive market (organized or over the counter), and not just the closing price on the issuers' home stock exchanges. Some mutual funds have begun to take steps to curtail arbitrage,

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while disclosing residual vulnerabilities more prominently, but the litigation targets those funds that have not done so (or targets the period before a given fund acted).

*2 SLUSA added to the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 parallel provisions curtailing certain class actions under state law. As in last year's jurisdictional opinion, we limit attention to § 16 of the 1933 Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77p, because the additions to the 1934 Act are functionally identical. See 15 U.S.C. § 78bb. As amended by SLUSA, § 77p(b) reads:

No covered class action based upon the statutory or common law of any State or subdivision thereof may be maintained in any State or Federal court by any private party alleging--

(1) an untrue statement or omission of a material fact in connection with the purchase or sale of a covered security; or

(2) that the defendant used or employed any manipulative or deceptive device or contrivance in connection with the purchase or sale of a covered security.

Investments in mutual funds are "covered securities," see § 77p(f)(3), and all of these suits are "covered class actions," see § 77p(f)(2), because plaintiffs seek to represent more than 50 investors and each action is direct rather than derivative. (Derivative proceedings are not "covered class actions". See § 77p(f)(2)(B). See also *Burks v. Lasker*, 441 U.S. 471, 99 S.Ct. 1831, 60 L.Ed.2d 404 (1979), and *Kamen v. Kemper Financial Services, Inc.*, 500 U.S. 90, 111 S.Ct. 1711, 114 L.Ed.2d 152 (1991), which note that state-law derivative claims may proceed against federally regulated mutual funds.) Section 77p(d) contains a number of additional exceptions, but plaintiffs do not contend that any of them applies to these actions. Thus everything turns on subsection (b), which forecloses a suit based on state law in which a private class alleges "(1) an untrue statement or omission of a material fact in connection with the purchase or sale of a covered security; or (2) that the defendant used or employed any manipulative or deceptive device or contrivance in connection with the purchase or sale of a covered security."

[1][2] That familiar language comes from Rule 10b-5, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5, which is based on § 10(b) of the 1934 Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b). Rule 10b-5 reads:

It shall be unlawful for any person, directly or indirectly, by the use of any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, or of the mails or of any facility of any national securities exchange,

(a) To employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud,

(b) To make any untrue statement of a material fact or to omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, or

(c) To engage in any act, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security.

Every court of appeals to encounter SLUSA has held that its language has the same scope as its antecedent in Rule 10b-5. *Dabit v. Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.*, 395 F.3d 25, 34-36 (2d Cir.2005); *Rowinski v. Salomon Smith Barney Inc.*, 398 F.3d 294, 299 (3d Cir.2005); *Green v. Ameritrade, Inc.*, 279 F.3d 590, 596-97 (8th Cir.2002); *Falkowski v. Imation Corp.*, 309 F.3d 1123, 1131 (9th Cir.2002), amended, 320 F.3d 905 (2003); *Riley v. Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.*, 292 F.3d 1334, 1342-43 (11th Cir.2002). We agree with this conclusion. SLUSA is designed to prevent plaintiffs from migrating to state court in order to evade rules for federal securities litigation in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. See *Spielman v. Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.*, 332 F.3d 116, 122-24 (2d Cir.2003) (discussing how PSLRA and SLUSA work). SLUSA can do its job only if subsection (b) covers those claims that engage Rule 10b-5 (and thus come within the 1995 statute) if presented directly under federal law; this is why SLUSA borrows the Rule's language. Unfortunately, however, the other circuits do not agree among themselves (or with the SEC) what Rule 10b-5 itself means. The phrase "in connection with the purchase or sale" of a security is the sticking point.

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*3 [3] The Supreme Court held in *Blue Chip Stamps v. Manor Drug Stores*, 421 U.S. 723, 95 S.Ct. 1917, 44 L.Ed.2d 539 (1975), that investors who neither purchase nor sell securities may not collect damages in private litigation under § 10(b) and Rule 10b-5, even if failure to purchase or sell was the result of fraud. Assuming that SLUSA's "in connection with" language means "able to pursue a private right of action after *Blue Chip Stamps*," plaintiffs attempted to frame complaints that avoid any allegations of purchase or sale. All but one of the classes is defined as investors who held shares of a given mutual fund between two specified dates. As an effort to evade SLUSA, this class definition is a flop: some of the investors who held shares during the class period must have purchased their interest (or increased it) during that time; others, who owned shares at the beginning of the period, undoubtedly sold some or all of their investment during the window. Each of the funds has substantial daily turnover, so the class of "all holders" during even a single day contains many purchasers and sellers. All of these class actions therefore must be dismissed. (Plaintiffs do not contend that any *other* part of SLUSA is pertinent; in particular, they did not argue in their briefs--and did not maintain at oral argument despite the court's invitation--that their suits allege mismanagement rather than deceit or manipulation. See *Santa Fe Industries, Inc. v. Green*, 430 U.S. 462, 97 S.Ct. 1292, 51 L.Ed.2d 480 (1977). Counsel for the plaintiffs declined to explain how state law would support a direct action that did not rely on deceit or manipulation. A claim based on mismanagement likely would need to be cast as a derivative action, which none of these suits purports to be. Nor does any of the suits assert that a mutual fund broke a promise, so that state contract law would supply a remedy.)

[4] The complaint in *Spurgeon v. Pacific Life Insurance Co.* avoids this pitfall. It defines the class as all investors who held the fund's securities during a defined period *and* neither purchased nor sold shares during that period. *Blue Chip Stamps* would prevent such a private action from proceeding under Rule 10b-5. Plaintiffs insist that any private action that is untenable after *Blue Chip Stamps* also is

unaffected by SLUSA. The district judge, agreeing with this perspective, remanded *Spurgeon* to state court.

An equation between SLUSA's coverage and the scope of private damages actions under Rule 10b-5 has the support of the second circuit (*Dabit*), the eighth circuit (*Green*), and the eleventh circuit (*Riley*). The ninth circuit (*Falkowski*), by contrast, has written that coverage of SLUSA tracks the coverage of § 10(b) and Rule 10b-5 when enforced by *public* plaintiffs (the SEC or a criminal prosecutor). The third circuit (*Rowinski*) has reserved decision on this issue. The Securities and Exchange Commission filed a brief in *Dabit* as amicus curiae supporting the view that SLUSA tracks the full scope of § 10(b) and Rule 10b-5, not just their enforcement in private actions. The way the *Spurgeon* class has been defined prevents us from following the third circuit's path: we must answer the question rather than postpone its resolution.

*4 To say that SLUSA uses the same language as § 10(b) and Rule 10b-5 is pretty much to resolve the point. Section 10(b) defines a federal crime, and it also permits the SEC to enforce the prohibition through administrative proceedings. Invocation of this anti-fraud rule does not depend on proof that the agency or United States purchased or sold securities; instead the "in connection with" language ensures that the fraud occurs in securities transactions rather than some other activity. See *SEC v. Zandford*, 535 U.S. 813, 821-22, 122 S.Ct. 1899, 153 L.Ed.2d 1 (2002); *Superintendent of Insurance v. Bankers Life & Casualty Co.*, 404 U.S. 6, 12, 92 S.Ct. 165, 30 L.Ed.2d 128 (1971).

Blue Chip Stamps came out as it did not because § 10(b) and Rule 10b-5 are limited to situations in which the plaintiff itself traded securities, but because a private right of action to enforce these provisions is a judicial creation and the Court wanted to confine these actions to situations where litigation is apt to do more good than harm. The Justices observed that anyone can say that a failure to trade bore some relation to what the issuer did (or didn't) disclose, but that judges and juries would

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have an exceedingly hard time knowing whether a given counterfactual claim ("I *would have* traded, if only ...") was honest. The Court thought it best to limit private actions to harms arising out of actual trading, which narrows the affected class and simplifies proof, while leaving other securities offenses to public prosecutors.

Decisions since *Blue Chip Stamps* reiterate that it deals with private actions alone and does not restrict coverage of the statute and regulation. See *United States v. O'Hagan*, 521 U.S. 642, 664, 117 S.Ct. 2199, 138 L.Ed.2d 724 (1997); *Holmes v. SIPC*, 503 U.S. 258, 284, 112 S.Ct. 1311, 117 L.Ed.2d 532 (1992); *United States v. Naftalin*, 441 U.S. 768, 774 n. 6, 99 S.Ct. 2077, 60 L.Ed.2d 624 (1979). By depicting their classes as containing entirely non-traders, plaintiffs do not take their claims outside § 10(b) and Rule 10b-5; instead they demonstrate only that the claims must be left to public enforcement. It would be more than a little strange if the Supreme Court's decision to block private litigation by non-traders became the opening by which that very litigation could be pursued under state law, despite the judgment of Congress (reflected in SLUSA) that securities class actions must proceed under federal securities law or not at all. *Blue Chip Stamps* combined with SLUSA may mean that claims of the sort plaintiffs want to pursue must be litigated as derivative actions or committed to public prosecutors, but this is not a good reason to undercut the statutory language.

Could the SEC maintain an action under § 10(b) and Rule 10b-5 against municipal funds that fraudulently or manipulatively increased investors' exposure to arbitrage? Suppose the funds stated in their prospectuses that they took actions to prevent arbitrageurs from exploiting the fact that each fund's net asset value is calculated only once a day. That statement, if false (and known to be so), could support enforcement action, for the deceit would have occurred in connection with investors' purchases of the funds' securities. Similarly, if these funds had stated bluntly in their prospectuses (or otherwise disclosed to investors) that daily valuation left no-load funds exposed to short-swing trading strategies, that revelation would have

squelched litigation of this kind.

*5 These observations show that plaintiffs' claims depend on statements made or omitted in connection with *their own* purchases of the funds' securities. They could have brought them directly under Rule 10b-5 in federal court (to the extent that the purchases occurred within the period of limitations). Indeed, most of the approximately 200 suits filed against mutual funds in the last two years alleging that the home-exchange-valuation rule can be exploited by arbitrageurs have been filed in federal court under Rule 10b-5. Our plaintiffs' effort to define non-purchaser-non-seller classes is designed to evade PSLRA in order to litigate a securities class action in state court in the hope that a local judge or jury may produce an idiosyncratic award. It is the very sort of maneuver that SLUSA is designed to prevent.

We hold that SLUSA is as broad as § 10(b) itself and that limitations on private rights of action to enforce § 10(b) and Rule 10b-5 do not open the door to litigation about securities transactions under state law. Plaintiffs' claims are connected to their own purchases of securities and thus are blocked by SLUSA, whose preemptive effect is not confined to knocking out state-law claims by investors who have *winning* federal claims, as plaintiffs suppose. It covers both good and bad securities claims--*especially* bad ones. The judgments of the district courts are reversed, and the cases are remanded with instructions to undo the remand orders and dismiss plaintiffs' state-law claims.

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Briefs and Other Related Documents (Back to top)

- 04-2687 (Docket) (Jul. 06, 2004)
- 04-1660 (Docket) (Mar. 18, 2004)
- 04-1661 (Docket) (Mar. 18, 2004)

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- 04-1650 (Docket)
(Mar. 17, 2004)
- 04-1651 (Docket)
(Mar. 17, 2004)
- 04-1628 (Docket)
(Mar. 15, 2004)
- 04-1608 (Docket)
(Mar. 12, 2004)
- 04-1495 (Docket)
(Mar. 01, 2004)
- 04-1496 (Docket)
(Mar. 01, 2004)

END OF DOCUMENT

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MADISON COUNTY
(618) 682-6240
WWW.CO.MADISON.IL.US

WOODBURY EDMUND INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF OF ALL OTHERS SIM
PLAINTIFF

DATE: 10/07/2003

VS.

CASE No. 2003 L 001362

TEMPLETON INVESTMENT COUNSEL LLC
R/A LESLIE M KRATTER
ONE FRANKLIN PARKWAY
SAN MATEO CA 94403-1906
DEFENDANT

DEPENDANT TEMPLETON INVESTMENT COUNSEL LLC:

You are hereby summoned and required to file an answer in this case, or otherwise file your appearance, in the office of the Madison County Circuit Clerk, within 30 days after service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, a judgment or decree by default may be taken against you for the relief prayed in the complaint.

This summons must be returned by the officer or other person to whom it was given for service, with endorsement thereon of service and fees, if any, immediately after service. If service cannot be made, this summons shall be returned so endorsed.

This summons may not be served later than 30 days after its date.

Witness: MATT MELUCCI the Clerk of said Circuit Court and the seal thereof, at Edwardsville, Illinois, this OCTOBER 7, 2003.

MATT MELUCCI
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

(SEAL)

BY: M. Downs
Deputy Clerk

(Plaintiff's attorney or plaintiff if he is not represented by an attorney)

KOREIN TILLERY
10 EXECUTIVE WOODS COURT
BELLEVILLE IL 62226-2030

Date of Service: _____, 20____.

(To be inserted by officer on the copy left with the defendant or other person)

EXHIBIT

B

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MADISON COUNTY
(618) 692-6240
WWW.CO.MADISON.IL.US

WOODBURY EDMUND INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF OF ALL OTHERS SIM
PLAINTIFF

DATE: 10/07/2003

VS.

CASE No. 2003 L 001362

TEMPLETON GLOBAL SMALLER COMPANIES FUND INC A CORPORATION
R/A MURRAY L SIMPSON
ONE FRANKLIN PARKWAY
SAN MATEO CA 94403-1906
DEFENDANT

DEFENDANT TEMPLETON GLOBAL SMALLER COMPANIES FUND INC A CORPORATION:

You are hereby summoned and required to file an answer in this case, or otherwise file your appearance, in the office of the Madison County Circuit Clerk, within 30 days after service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, a judgment or decree by default may be taken against you for the relief prayed in the complaint.

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MATT MELUCCI
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

(SEAL)

BY:


Deputy Clerk

(Plaintiff's attorney or plaintiff if he is not represented by an attorney)

KOREIN TILLERY
10 EXECUTIVE WOODS COURT
BELLEVILLE IL 62226-2030

Date of Service: _____, 20____.

(To be inserted by officer on the copy left with the defendant or other person)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MADISON COUNTY
STATE OF ILLINOIS

FILED

2005 FEB 15 PM 2:10

EDMUND WOODBURY, individually and on)
behalf of all others similarly situated,)

Plaintiffs,)

vs.)

TEMPLETON GLOBAL SMALLER)
COMPANIES FUND, INC. and)
TEMPLETON INVESTMENT COUNSEL,)
LLC,)

Defendants.)

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Case No: 03-L-1362

**TEMPLETON INVESTMENT COUNSEL, LLC'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK
OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION: § 5/2-301 ILL. CODE CIV. PROC.**

Defendant Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC ("Templeton Investment Counsel"), by its attorneys, respectfully moves the Court to dismiss this action as to it pursuant to Section 5/2-301 of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure for lack of personal jurisdiction over Templeton Investment Counsel.

In support of its motion, Templeton Investment Counsel states as follows:

I. The Complaint

1. The Complaint herein was filed by an alleged investor in the Templeton Global Smaller Companies Fund, a Florida-based mutual fund (the "Fund"), purporting to sue on behalf of himself and a putative class of investors in the Fund. The Complaint names the Fund and Templeton Investment Counsel, the Florida-based adviser to the Fund, as defendants.

2. The Complaint alleges that the defendants improperly value the Fund's shares by using the last trade price in the home market of each foreign security held by the Fund (Cplt. ¶ 12); those prices are allegedly "stale" since they do not reflect the current value of those shares at 4:00 p.m. E.S.T. when the value of these shares is determined (Cplt. ¶ 16); and so-called "market-timing traders" may take advantage of the allegedly stale prices to obtain excess profits

EXHIBIT

C

at the expense of the Fund and its shareholders (Cplt. ¶ 29).

II. Ground for Dismissal: Section 5/2-301 -- Lack of Personal Jurisdiction

3. The Illinois courts, and the United States Supreme Court, have recognized two distinct types of personal jurisdiction: general and specific. See Helicopteros Nacionales de Colombia, S.A. v. Hall, 466 U.S. 408, 414-15 (1984); Radosta v. Devil's Head Ski Lodge, 172 Ill. App. 3d 289, 526 N.E.2d 561 (1988).

4. For general personal jurisdiction, a defendant's contacts with Illinois must be "substantial" as well as "continuous and systematic." Helicopteros, 466 U.S. at 415-16; Khan v. Van Remmen, Inc., 325 Ill. App. 3d 49, 756 N.E.2d 902 (2001); Kadala v. Cunard Lines, Ltd., 226 Ill. App. 3d 302, 589 N.E.2d 802, 810 (1992); Huck v. Northern Ind. Pub. Serv. Co., 117 Ill. App. 3d 837, 453 N.E.2d 1365 (1983).

5. For specific jurisdiction, a defendant must have "purposefully directed" its activities at Illinois and the claims for relief must directly "arise out of or relate" to those activities. Helicopteros, 466 U.S. at 414. This Court has neither general nor specific personal jurisdiction over Templeton Investment Counsel.

a. **General Personal Jurisdiction** -- The Court lacks general personal jurisdiction over Templeton Investment Counsel because:

(i) Templeton Investment Counsel is a limited liability company organized under the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business in Fort Lauderdale, Florida;

(ii) Templeton Investment Counsel has no employees or officers located in Illinois;

(iii) Templeton Investment Counsel has no office and maintains no business records in Illinois. Its sole office is in Fort Lauderdale. Its

records are maintained principally in its Fort Lauderdale offices;

(iv) Templeton Investment Counsel is not licensed or qualified to do business in Illinois;

(v) Templeton Investment Counsel has no phone number or agent for service of process in Illinois; and

(vi) Templeton Investment Counsel has no bank account in Illinois.

In sum, Templeton Investment Counsel does not have the requisite "substantial, continuous and systematic" contacts with the State of Illinois for this Court to exercise general personal jurisdiction over it.

b. **Specific Personal Jurisdiction** -- This Court lacks specific personal jurisdiction because no allegedly actionable activity was "purposefully directed" at Illinois. None of the challenged conduct (i.e. the alleged mis-valuation of portfolio securities of the Fund) occurred in Illinois. Accordingly, there is no basis for this Court to exercise specific personal jurisdiction over Templeton Investment Counsel.¹ Moreover, the client for which Templeton Investment Counsel was working when the challenged conduct occurred was a Florida-based mutual fund.

6. Templeton Investment Counsel incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the memorandum of law setting forth its legal arguments and case authority supporting the dismissal of Plaintiff's claims against Templeton Investment Counsel which it has this date contemporaneously filed.

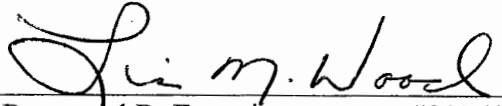
¹ Given the absence of any meaningful contact by Templeton Investment Counsel with Illinois (e.g., any act by which it purposefully availed itself of the privilege of conducting business in Illinois), the due process requirements of the United States Constitution are not met here. See also Pilipauskas v. Yakel, 258 Ill. App. 3d 47, 629 N.E.2d 733 (1994).

Wherefore, for the reasons set forth herein, in the Affidavit of Robert C. Rosselot attached hereto as Exhibit A, and in the memorandum of law, Defendant Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC respectfully requests that the Court grant the motion to dismiss the Complaint against it for lack of personal jurisdiction.

Dated: February 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP

By: 
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Glenn E. Davis #6184597
Lisa M. Wood #6202911
Jacqueline P. Ulin #6276863
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600
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ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS
TEMPLETON GLOBAL SMALLER
COMPANIES FUND, INC. AND
TEMPLETON INVESTMENT COUNSEL,
LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served by first-class mail, postage prepaid, upon the attorneys listed below, on this 15th day of February, 2005:

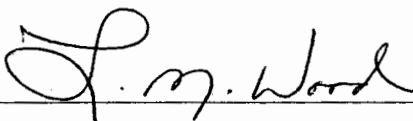
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Andrew S. Friedman
Francis J. Balint, Jr.
BONNETT, FAIRBOURN, FRIEDMAN
& BALINT, P.C.
2901 N. Central Avenue
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Phoenix, Arizona 85012

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MADISON COUNTY
STATE OF ILLINOIS

EDMUND WOODBURY, individually and on)
behalf of all others similarly situated,)

Plaintiffs,)

vs.)

Case No: 03-L-1362

TEMPLETON GLOBAL SMALLER)
COMPANIES FUND, INC. and)
TEMPLETON INVESTMENT COUNSEL,)
LLC,)

Defendants.)

AFFIDAVIT OF ROBERT C. ROSSELOT

State of Florida)
Broward County) ss.:
)

Robert C. Rosselot, being first duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. I am a Vice President and Assistant Secretary of Defendant Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC. I submit this Affidavit in support of Templeton Investment Counsel's motion to dismiss the Complaint as to it for lack of personal jurisdiction pursuant to § 5/2-301, Ill. Code Civ. Pro. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein.

2. Defendant Templeton Investment Counsel is a limited liability company organized under the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Its business is providing investment advisory services.

3. Templeton Investment Counsel, at all relevant times, has provided investment advisory services to the Templeton Global Smaller Companies Fund (the "Fund"), the Florida-based mutual fund in which plaintiff Edmund Woodbury allegedly is a shareholder.

EXHIBIT

A

4. None of Templeton Investment Counsel's employees or officers resides or works in Illinois. All of its employees are located in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The majority of its officers resides in Florida.

5. Templeton Investment Counsel has no office in Illinois. Other than its office in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, it has no other office.

6. None of the challenged conduct of Templeton Investment Counsel — the allegedly improper valuation of the stocks in the securities portfolio of the Fund — took place in Illinois. Rather, the challenged conduct took place in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

7. Templeton Investment Counsel is not licensed or qualified to do business in Illinois.

8. Templeton Investment Counsel does not maintain any of its business records in Illinois; its business records are maintained principally in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

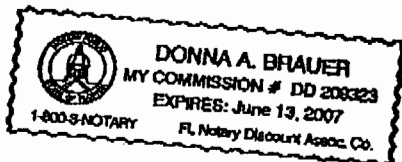
9. Templeton Investment Counsel has no bank account in Illinois.

10. Templeton Investment Counsel has no agent in Illinois for service of process.



Robert C. Rosselot

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 15th day of February, 2005.


Notary Public

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MADISON COUNTY
STATE OF ILLINOIS

FILED

2005 FEB 15 PM 2:11

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

EDMUND WOODBURY, individually and on)
behalf of all others similarly situated,)

Plaintiffs,)

vs.)

Case No: 03-L-1362

TEMPLETON GLOBAL SMALLER)
COMPANIES FUND, INC. and)
TEMPLETON INVESTMENT COUNSEL,)
LLC,)

Defendants.)

DEFENDANT TEMPLETON INVESTMENT COUNSEL, LLC'S
MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF ITS MOTION TO DISMISS
FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION

Defendant Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC ("Templeton Investment Counsel") submits this memorandum of law in support of its motion to dismiss the Complaint against it for lack of personal jurisdiction, pursuant to § 5/2-301, Ill. Code Civ. Pro. Templeton Investment Counsel is a Delaware investment adviser which is not "doing business" in Illinois for jurisdictional purposes. It does not have any office, employees or officers in Illinois. Its office is in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Its business is as an investment adviser, here, to a Florida-based mutual fund. In addition, the allegedly actionable conduct – the so-called "stale" pricing of portfolio securities of the Florida-based mutual fund (in which Plaintiff Edmund Woodbury is allegedly an investor) – did not take place in Illinois. Plaintiff Woodbury does not state anything to the contrary in the Complaint. For these and other reasons set forth in the accompanying papers, the Court should hold that it lacks personal jurisdiction over Defendant Templeton Investment Counsel.

The Facts

The relevant facts are set forth in the affidavit of Robert C. Rosselot, Esq. attached as Exhibit A to Defendant Templeton Investment Counsel's Motion to Dismiss for Lack of Personal Jurisdiction and, in the interest of brevity, will not be repeated herein.

The Law

The Court lacks personal jurisdiction over Defendant Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC

Plaintiff cannot satisfy the "quite high" standard for this Court's exercise of general jurisdiction,¹ namely that Templeton Investment Counsel's contacts with Illinois were not occasional or transient, but were "continuous, permanent, ongoing and systematic." Cook Assocs., Inc. v. Lexington United Corp., 87 Ill. 2d 190, 201, 429 N.E.2d 847, 852 (1981); Kadala v. Cunard Lines, 226 Ill. App. 3d 302, 314, 589 N.E.2d 802, 810 (1st Dist. 1992).

In Khan v. Van Remmen, Inc., 325 Ill. App. 3d 49, 55, 756 N.E.2d 902, 908 (2d Dist. 2001), the Court held that the defendant Wisconsin-based company, in an action to recover wages from it, was not "doing business" in Illinois even when it had clients in Illinois, stating (at 908):

We do not consider the placement of four employees with Illinois companies over a five-year period to be sufficiently permanent or continuous contacts to constitute "doing business" in Illinois.

Contrary to plaintiff's assertion, the fact that a nonresident corporation has clients in Illinois does not necessarily lead to the conclusion that the corporation was doing business in Illinois. ... Further, VRI had no offices in Illinois, no Illinois phone number, and

¹ The "specific" form of personal jurisdiction is not an issue in this action. Plaintiff's claims do not arise out of any challenged activity in Illinois. Thus, there is no basis for "specific" personal jurisdiction. Campbell v. Mills, 262 Ill. App. 3d 624, 628, 634 N.E.2d 41, 44 (5th Dist. 1994). Similarly, given the absence of any meaningful contact by Templeton Investment Counsel, the due process requirements of the United States Constitution are not met for this Court to exercise jurisdiction over Templeton Investment Counsel. See, e.g., Pilipauskas v. Yakel, 258 Ill. App. 3d 47, 629 N.E.2d 733, 738-41 (1st Dist. 1994).

no other permanent or continuous connection with Illinois that would establish that it was doing business in Illinois. (emphasis supplied)

Again, in Kadala, 589 N.E.2d at 810, the Court held that revenues earned by an out-of-state business through extensive advertising in Illinois did not submit the business to jurisdiction under the “doing business” test, stating (at 810):

Plaintiff here emphasizes the extensive nature of defendant’s advertising activity in Illinois and revenues derived from Illinois in support of her contention that defendant has conducted business on a “continuing and systematic basis.” We do not, however, believe that these activities satisfy the “doing business” test. ... At best, advertising amounts only to solicitation, which, as discussed above, is insufficient to submit a defendant to jurisdiction under the “doing business” test, as it is insufficient under the “transaction of business” test postulated under section 2-209 of the long-arm statute. [citations omitted] The fact that a defendant who solicits business in the State derives revenue from the State would seem to be implicit, even though not expressly discussed in the cases, as a natural result of successful solicitation, and not an independent factor upon which to determine that a non-resident corporation is “doing business” in the State. Moreover, defendant here did not receive any revenues in this state; all payments were received in its New York office. Accordingly, we hold that defendant is not “doing business” in Illinois so as to be amenable to *in personam* jurisdiction. (emphasis supplied)

Accord Radosta v. Devil’s Head Ski Lodge, 172 Ill. App. 3d 289, 294-96, 526 N.E.2d 561, 564-65 (1st Dist. 1988) (the “doing business” test was not satisfied where an out-of-state business sold its ski services in local Illinois shops, bought billboard advertising in Illinois, and had an Illinois telephone number, and attended annual trade shows in Illinois); see also Huck v. Northern Ind. Pub. Serv. Co., 117 Ill. App. 3d 837, 843-44, 453 N.E.2d 1365, 1371 (1st Dist. 1983) (“doing business” test not satisfied where defendant maintained no offices and had no employees, agents or customers in Illinois).

Here, these holdings mandate a finding that the Court lacks “general” personal jurisdiction over Templeton Investment Counsel. As shown in the Affidavit of Robert C. Rosselot, Templeton Investment Counsel has not had contacts with Illinois sufficient for

jurisdictional purposes. It has had no physical presence in Illinois. Like the defendant in Khan, 756 N.E.2d at 908, Templeton Investment Counsel has had “no offices in Illinois [and] no Illinois phone number.” Its offices have been and are in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. It has had no documents, employees or agents in Illinois, and has had only a few clients there. See Huck, 453 N.E.2d at 1371; see also Khan, 756 N.E.2d at 908, where the Court found that the defendant was not “doing business” in Illinois even though it was servicing clients in Illinois. Templeton Investment Counsel also has none of the other indicia of “doing business” in Illinois: it is not licensed or qualified to do business in Illinois, it has no bank account in Illinois, and it has no representatives in Illinois for service of process or otherwise.

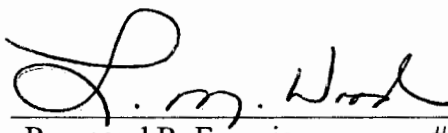
Conclusion

The Court should dismiss the Complaint against Defendant Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC on the ground of lack of personal jurisdiction.

Dated: February 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP

By: 
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 Glenn E. Davis #6184597
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 Jacqueline P. Ulin #6276863
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ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS
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COMPANIES FUND, INC. AND
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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